

this function within the Department of External Affairs, verification was recognized as "the most significant factor in international disarmament and arms control negotiations in the decade of the 1980s." The need for a deeper understanding of verification was evident: this area was one in which much misunderstanding existed and to which relatively little research was being directed. Moreover, while the necessity of some sort of verification in arms control and disarmament agreements had long been recognized, this issue was discussed, almost without exception, on an *ad hoc* basis and provisions relating to verification were developed specifically to meet certain sensitivities and security criteria within individual negotiating packages. It was decided, therefore, to redirect some of the scant resources of the department toward a program that would serve to broaden specialist and public understanding of the verification issue as well as advance negotiations on these matters.

As a result, an initial modest co-operative program was developed between the Operational Research and Analysis Establishment of the Department of National Defence and the Arms Control and Disarmament Division of the Department of External Affairs. The aim was to study arms control verification in a general

conceptual manner as well as to support specific negotiations. It was an attempt, through the establishment of a generally accepted approach and the development of a common lexicon, to introduce a degree of gentle leadership and co-ordination, while at the same time leaving the field open to contributions from other nations in areas of their own expertise.

This modest *ad hoc* program resulted in the production of a trilogy of studies on verification which, it is fair to say, continue to serve today as basic reference documents on the subject in international negotiations. These three documents include:

- the *Compendium of Arms Control Verification Proposals* (1980),
- the *Quantitative Analysis of the Compendium of Arms Control Verification Proposals* (1980), and
- the *Conceptual Working Paper on Arms Control Verification* (1981).

The *Compendium* was updated in 1982 and a new edition is to be released in 1987.

On June 18, 1982, during a speech to the second United Nations Special Session on Disarmament (UNSSOD II), then Prime Minister, the Right Honourable Pierre Elliott Trudeau identified the arms control and disarmament issues that Canada considered to